

# Dark Fiber Infrastructure in Washington, D.C.

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## General Information

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## Contracting Office Address

United States House of Representatives, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Office of Finance and Procurement, Room 359, Ford House Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515

## Description

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) ONLY FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. THERE IS NO SOLICITATION PACKAGE AVAILABLE. The Government does not presently intend to award a contract, but wants to obtain information on commercially available dark fiber infrastructure between Capitol Hill and an Alternate Computing Facility within the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. area. Responses to this notice are not offers and cannot be accepted by the Government to form a binding contract. The United States House of Representatives (USHR or House) is soliciting industry for information related to dark fiber availability in the metropolitan area to enable future growth of communications between the primary and alternate data centers supporting the House. The focus of this solicitation is to provide House Communications and Business Continuity staff with a general understanding of dark fiber services that are available within the area, and the complexity of acquiring and activating dark fiber for future use. This information would serve as the foundation for a comprehensive and scalable solution that would be incorporated into the House Wide Area Network. The House is interested in obtaining information pertaining to but not limited to the following:

1. Current or proposed buried dark fiber infrastructure located within the metropolitan area.
2. Current capacity of buried dark fiber infrastructure.
3. Current or proposed route diversity of buried dark fiber infrastructure.
4. Current or proposed ownership of buried dark fiber and intermediate patch and co-location facilities.

5. Sampling of fiber loss standards for current or proposed buried dark fiber infrastructure and type of buried dark fiber.
6. Sampling of Service Level Agreements in place with existing users of buried fiber infrastructure including but not limited to maximum time to repair and credit criteria.
7. Sampling of Service Level Agreements in place with existing users of co-location facilities.
8. Method and procedures for allowing customer to monitor and troubleshoot assigned buried fiber plant.
9. Method, procedures and experience for supporting Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM).
10. Method and procedures for provider monitoring of buried fiber plant.
11. List of currently supported customers and high level topology of network.
12. Rough order of magnitude (ROM) on pricing and availability via current government based contract (GSA/GWAC, etc.) USHR is located in downtown Washington, D.C. The facilities housing USHR consist of the United States Capitol, four main office buildings, and other smaller buildings clustered in an urban area encompassing an area of 0.8 square miles.

The Alternate Computing Facility is located within the Metropolitan area; address information for this location will be provided under separate cover. Submittals should include examples of systems currently available to support the above specified operations, to include known locations where they are in use. Multiple systems may be proposed to meet the various needs specified, if appropriate. For currently available systems, proposals should include an estimate of lifecycle costs to include separate specification of purchase, implementation, and maintenance costs. New design efforts to meet the needs may be submitted; however, currently available systems are preferred.

A formal solicitation MAY NOT BE ISSUED as a result of this RFI. Information provided may or may not be included in a formal solicitation.

The USHR will not release any information – marked with a Proprietary legend – received in response to this RFI to any firms, agencies, or individuals outside the Legislative Branch of the Government without written permission in accordance with the legend.

Vendors may email their response no later than January 16, 2006 to [jim.caskey@mail.house.gov](mailto:jim.caskey@mail.house.gov); reference this RFI number and title in the subject line. Vendors may send hard copies to Office of Finance and Procurement, 356 Ford House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515; reference RFI number and title on shipping label, and send email to [jim.caskey@mail.house.gov](mailto:jim.caskey@mail.house.gov) identifying carrier and tracking number for follow-up through mail/package screening. Vendors may direct technical questions to Mr. Rich Zanatta via email at [richard.zanatta@mail.house.gov](mailto:richard.zanatta@mail.house.gov).

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**Point of Contact**

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**Place of Contract Performance**

Metropolitan Washington, D.C.

20515+

USA